

SECTION 425

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TOPSOILS

425.1 DESCRIPTION:

This work shall consist of collecting and hauling topsoil from an approved source or salvaging on-site topsoil as identified in the contract documents and placing the topsoil where shown on the plans, in accordance with this specification and the special provisions. Topsoil may also be used as a component of the backfill mix in landscaping planting.

425.2 MATERIALS:

Topsoil shall conform to the requirements of Section [795](#).

425.3 CONSTRUCTION METHODS:

Prior to the excavation of topsoil, all grass, weeds, brush, stumps, loose rocks, and other objectionable material shall be removed from the surface of the area from which the topsoil is to be removed in a manner and with equipment and materials as approved by the Engineer. Herbicides used in the vegetation removal shall meet the requirements of Section 795.

The topsoil source shall be excavated in such a manner and blended as required by the Engineer to produce a homogenous product of the same composition and structure throughout. Topsoil may be stockpiled on-site, however, it shall be re-blended prior to use if it demonstrates evidence of particle and material segregation.

The contractor shall demonstrate at the pre-construction conference how they intend to conduct the topsoil, soil fertility, and bioassay analyses identified in Section 795 and incorporate any soil amendments as required to meet the specifications.

Accepted topsoil shall be spread uniformly over the designated areas and to the depths or contours as shown on the plans. The topsoil shall be compacted to a maximum of 85% standard proctor density unless otherwise specified. Avoid over-compaction during the spreading and placement operations. Scarifications shall be required for over-compacted areas and on-site material haul routes. When topsoil is placed over subgrade as a plating material, the subgrade shall be scarified or disked to a four-to-six-inch depth prior to placement of the topsoil.

After the topsoil has been placed, leaves, twigs, stumps, roots, rocks, and clods greater than 1 inch in diameter, and other objectionable matter shall be removed from the surface of the area and disposed of in a manner satisfactory to the Engineer.

Topsoil used as a planting backfill mix component, shall be incorporated into the project as described in Sections 430 and 795.

425.4 MEASUREMENT:

Unless otherwise specified, topsoil shall be measured by the cubic yard in place. The Engineer shall determine the appropriate method for measuring the installed quantity.

425.5 PAYMENT:

The accepted quantities measured as provided above, will be paid for at the contract price per cubic yard of in place topsoil. Payment includes all labor, equipment, and materials for collecting and furnishing topsoil from an approved source or for salvaging on-site topsoil, conducting topsoil, fertility, and bioassay analyses, incorporation of materials and amendments into the topsoil as required, and placing the topsoil. The price shall be full compensation for the item complete in place, as shown on the plans and as described in this specification, unless superseded by the special

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provisions.

- *End of Section* -